

5th March*1926]

Assignment of punja lands to ex-military men.

* 1536 Q.—MR. R. VEERIAN : With reference to question No. 1107 answered at the meeting of the Coupeil on 16th December 1925, will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state why about 100 acres of punja land lying to the west of A. Kurumbur forest, Kattianallur, south of Mepulliyur, east of Kurumbur Veelakuttai, and north of Nachiarpet, are under contemplation for assignment on darkhast to ex-military men, when the Adi-Dravidas of B. Killanur village, Olundurpet, Tirukkoyilur taluk, South Arcot district, are in enjoyment of those lands for the past five years under the orders of the Deputy Tahsildar of that range, having spent about Rs. 800 for bringing the lands under cultivable state and when they have obtained necessary receipts also for assessment?

A.—The Government are not aware that any such assignment is in contemplation.

MR. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“I understand from the question that some lands have been given to Adi-Dravidas on cowl for five years. They have spent Rs. 800 on the lands and made them cultivable. They are fit to be given on darkhast even to outsiders. The answer is ‘the Government are not aware that any such assignment is in contemplation’. Why should not the lands be given to the people who are in possession of them now and who have spent Rs. 800 for the improvement of the lands.”

MR. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—“Perhaps the Adi-Dravidas are in enjoyment of these on a system of cowl.” 11-15 a.m.

MR. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—“The question and the answer taken together show that the Adi-Dravidas of B. Killanur village are in enjoyment of these lands for the past five years under the orders of the Deputy Tahsildar. In spite of what my hon. Friend, Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar, may say, whether the depressed classes are in enjoyment of these lands on cowl—I took it to be something like cowl—or under some other arrangement, I suggest that the lands may be given to the Adi-Dravidas who have been in enjoyment of them for the past five years on patta to prevent the risk of some other persons like sepoys and others coming and taking them on dharkhast.”

The hon. MR. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—“I have no information with regard to these particular lands. If these lands were under the occupation of the Adi-Dravidas for the past five years, those who are in occupation should be given the first option, and I quite agree with my hon. Friend there.”

Transfer of grazing grounds to the Labour Department.

* 1537 Q.—MR. D. MANJAYYA HEGGADE : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware that the lands so far reserved as grazing grounds for the benefit of ryots have been made over to the Labour Department and assigned on darkhast to various applicants; and

(b) if so, what steps the Government propose to take for the maintenance of grazing grounds for the cattle?

A—(a) & (b) Government are not aware that this is a fact.